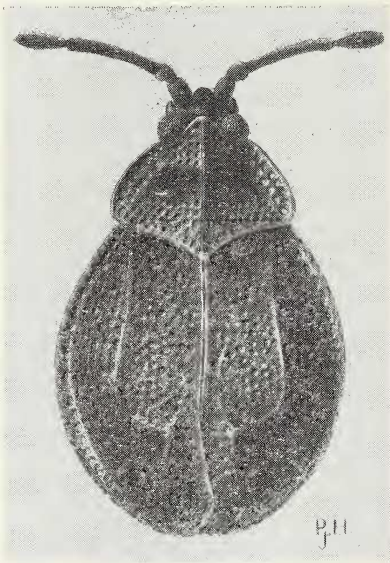


## A NEW MOSS-FEEDING TINGID FROM MEXICO (HEMIPTERA)

By CARL J. DRAKE<sup>1</sup> and FLORENCE A. RUHOFF<sup>1</sup>

The Holarctic genus *Acalypta*, erected for the European *Tingis carinata* Panzer, is represented in the Americas by 10 species, including the taxonomic changes consummated herein. To the present writing, this genus was known to occur only in Canada and the United States in the Western Hemisphere. The description of a new *Acalypta* from Mexico extends the range of the genus into the Neotropical Region. The Old World members of the genus inhabit the Palearctic Region.

Since little attention has been given to moss-inhabiting insects, *Acalypta* is very poorly represented in most museum collections. The Mexican species was found in connection with the cataloguing of the Tingidae of the world (National Science Foundation Grant 04095). We are indebted to Patricia J. Hogue for making the fine drawing of the holotype of the new species.



(Fig. 1)

*Acalypta mniophila*, n. sp.

### *Acalypta mniophila*, n. sp.

*Brachypterous Form*: Small, ovate, dark fuscous brown with paranota, costal area of elytra, and bucculae brown, calli and head blackish, antennae blackish fuscous, legs brownish fuscous with femora darker, and body beneath mostly dark fuscous. Length 2.00 mm., width 1.25 mm. (widest part of elytra.)

Head short, with only an indistinct median tubercle, antenniferous tubercles large, concave within; bucculae wide, parallel, with ends not meeting anteriorly, mostly biseriate, triseriate in widest part. Antennae rather stout, segmental measurements: I,

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0.11; II, 0.85; III, 0.40; IV, 0.22 mm. Labium very long, yellowish brown, extending a little beyond metasternum. Eyes blackish, transverse, nearly twice as deep as long. Metathoracic scent gland with ostiole and ostiolar canal on each metapleuron. Hypocostal lamina long, composed of one row of moderately large areolae. Legs moderately stout, sparsely clothed with short, golden pubescence.

Pronotum depressed, areolate, unicarinate, with hind margin subangulately lengthened backward with apex bluntly rounded; median carina raised, composed of one row of small areolae; calli depressed, impunctate; paranota moderately wide, biseriate, with exterior margins jointly rounded; hood moderately large, extended forward between eyes to middle of vertex. Elytra very broad, convexly raised; costal area rather narrow, projected horizontally, mostly uniseriate, with a few additional, very small cells near apical fourth; subcostal area very wide, sloping sharply obliquely downward, seven areolae deep adjacent to discoidal area; discoidal area flat, on same level as sutural area, about two-thirds as long as elytron, broadly subrounded at apex, six areolae deep in widest part, with inner boundary vein becoming indistinct anteriorly. Macropterous form and male unknown.

*Holotype* (brachypterous female), Central Mexico, in moss, Aug. 16, 1947, in U. S. National Museum (USNM No. 64870).

Three of the American species of *Acalypta* have unicarinate pronotum. These are *A. duryi*, *A. saundersi*, and *A. mniophila*, n. sp. The pronotum is tricarinate in all other members of the genus.

*A. mniophila* is most closely related to *duryi* and differs from it in having narrower, biseriate paranota, smaller areolae in paranota and costal area, and more convex dorsal surface of elytra. *A. duryi* is a distinctly broader species with triseriate paranota. All of the American species of *Acalypta* are muscicolous.

#### *Acalypta barberi* Drake

*Acalypta barberi* Drake, 1934, *Bul. Brooklyn Ent. Soc.*, 29: 196.

*Acalypta mera* Drake, 1941, *J. Washington Acad. Sci.* 31: 142  
(*New Synonymy*).

A comparison of the holotypes of *Acalypta barberi* Drake (brachypterous female, Merrifield, New York) and of *A. mera* Drake (brachypterous male, British Columbia, Canada) shows that these two names apply to the same species. The former name has priority by several years. This synonymy is also confirmed by numerous specimens (brachypterous and macropterous forms of

both sexes) of *mera* from Oregon and by a brachypterous male and female of *barberi* from Fundy National Park, New Brunswick, Canada. *A. barberi* is primarily a moss-inhabiting species. At Cobern, Oregon, July 26, 1935, a series of specimens (both short- and long-winged individuals) were found feeding on the leaves of hops by Dr. L. P. Larson. Although numerous adults were collected on the hops, these plants were simply fortuitous hosts providing sustenance for the wandering tingids in forced migration.

*Macropterous form*: Dark brownish fuscous, antennae brownish to fuscous-brown with fourth segment black and shiny, legs dusky brown with tips of tarsi and most of femora dark fuscous. Head black with tips of anterior pair of spines brownish. Body beneath black-fuscous with thoracic sternum dark brown or blackish.

Form obovate, widest behind middle of elytra. Pronotum tricarinate, moderately convex across humeral angles, much longer in brachyptery; all carinae uniseriate and equally elevated; lateral carinae feebly divergent posteriorly, terminating anteriorly slightly behind hood, there with the width of the space between them slightly less than that of the base of hood; paranota mostly biseriate, only one areola deep behind, with outer margin feebly convex. Elytra distinctly longer than abdomen; costal area mostly uniseriate, with one or two extra areolae at base and three or four additional cells in subapical part; subcostal area sloping obliquely downward, four areolae deep; discoidal area elongate, more widely angulate behind than in front, seven-thirteenths as long as elytra, five areolae deep a little behind middle.

Specimens of this moss-feeding species are at hand from Oregon (Warren, Scio, Salem, Cobern, Corvallis, McMinnville); New York (Merrifield) and Canada (British Columbia).

#### AMERICAN SPECIES OF ACALYPTA WESTWOOD

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. <i>barberi</i> Drake, 1934        | New York, Oregon; New         |
| = <i>mera</i> Drake, 1941            | Brunswick, British Columbia   |
| 2. <i>cooleyi</i> Drake, 1917        | Montana                       |
| 3. <i>duryi</i> Drake, 1930          | Ohio, Tennessee               |
| = <i>ovata</i> Osborn and            |                               |
| Drake, 1916                          |                               |
| 4. <i>lilliana</i> Torre Bueno, 1916 | Transcontinental. Newfound-   |
| = <i>grisea</i> Heidemann,           | land south to North Carolina, |
| 1917                                 | west to Nebraska and British  |
| = <i>modesta</i> Parshley, 1921      | Columbia                      |
| = <i>ovata</i> Osborn and            |                               |
| Drake, 1916                          |                               |

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 5. <i>nniophila</i> , n. sp.         | Mexico (Central)   |
| 6. <i>nyctalis</i> Drake, 1928       | New Hampshire, Alaska; Newfoundland, Alberta, British Columbia |
| 7. <i>saundersi</i> Downes, 1927     | Washington; British Columbia                                   |
| 8. <i>thomsonii</i> Stål, 1873       | Eastern U. S.  |
| = <i>madelinae</i> Torre Bueno, 1926 | (Mass. to Florida)   |
| 9. <i>vanduzeei</i> Drake, 1928      | California   |
| 10. <i>vandykei</i> Drake, 1928      | California, Oregon   |

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**An Illustrated Synopsis of the Principal Larval Forms of the Order Coleoptera**, by A. C. Boving and F. C. Craighead. First published as volume XI of **Entomologica Americana** in 1931, this great volume is universally accepted as the authoritative work on this subject. The late Charles W. Leng described this book in the following way. "It consists of a preface, in which generous recognition of the work of his colleagues is found; of an introduction, in which the general types of larvae are designated and the scheme of classification thereof is described; of a synopsis (pp. 9-68), in which the salient characters of the larvae of each family and subfamily are given, followed (pp. 81-338) by 125 plates on which about 2500 figures illustrate the characters used in the synopsis. Throughout the phylogeny of the order, summarized on plate 125, and the bearing of the relationships disclosed, are kept before the reader, footnotes being used copiously for that purpose. It thus constitutes, as described in its title, an illustrated synopsis of the larval forms of Coleoptera, and even more, a system of classification based exclusively on larval characters."

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